

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: )

**KRENGEL et al.** )

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned )

Filed: )

Art Unit: )

For: **LIFT-AND-STRIKE WELDING  
PROCESS WITH CLEANING  
STAGE** )Docket No.: **GER5355** )"Express Mail" mailing label number ET527175579 US ; Date of Deposit: 11-29-2001I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service on the date indicated above and is addressed to the **U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 2327, Arlington, VA 22202.**SHARON GILDEN

(Printed name of person mailing paper or fee)

Sharon Gilden

(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**The Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the accompanying application, please make the following amendments:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the text beginning on line 14 of page 1, as follows:

"~~[From DE 195 244 90, for example, a]~~ In the prior art, the lift-and strike welding process is known, wherein an aluminum weld stud is welded to a workpiece made of aluminum. ~~[According to said]~~ In such a process, [a] the height of lift of the weld stud ~~[is varied]~~ will vary [in-dependence] depending upon [a] the measured arc voltage. It is also known ~~[from said document that,]~~ in the prior art to prevent a short circuit from being caused by melted material dripping from the weld stud, by reversing the polarity at either the weld stud or ~~[at]~~ the workpiece ~~[is-reversed]~~ during the welding operation.